call letter

KVRX 91.7, University of Texas at Austin December 1997

What's Going On?

December 1 - 5
4th Annual Retablo Ex-Voto Auction
Mexic-Arte Museum, 480-9373

December 2
Macular Degeneration Vision Forum
Howston Library, 2500 Exposition Blvd., 459-8936

December 4
Ronald McDonald House "Lights of Love" Open House
5-7 p.m., Ronald McDonald House, 403 E. 15th St., 472-9844

REI Big Bend Tour
7 p.m., REI, 9901 Capital of Texas Hwy. North, 343-5550

December 5
St. Cecilia Music Series, "South American Folk Music" featuring Chaski
8 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa Dr., 345-8866

December 6
Austin Community Gardens Workshops
9 a.m., Harvesting the Fall Garden
10 a.m., Vermiculture: Composting With Worms
458-2009

Volunteer training session for Project PHASE Homeless Shelters
10 a.m.-noon, St. Austin's Church, Guadalupe and 21st Streets, 482-9474

University Filmmaker's Alliance, "Jump Cut" Film Festival
8 p.m., Jester Auditorium, 477-6869

December 5 - 7
Wild Ideas Holiday Event, National Wildflower Research Center
9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday; Noon-5 p.m., Sunday
South of Slaughter Lane on LaCrosse St., 292-4200

December 6, 7, 13 and 14
Children's Art School at Laguna Gloria
1:30-4:30 p.m., Laguna Gloria Museum, 323-6380

December 11
REI Skiing Seminar
7 p.m., REI, 9901 Capital of Texas Hwy. North, 343-5550

December 13
Great Wall China Adoption Agency, workshop for adoptive parents
Howston Library, 2500 Exposition Blvd., 323-9595

December 21
Winter Solstice Celebration
5-10 p.m., Laughing at the Sun Art Gallery, 2209 South 1st St., 326-4410

Prepare to "Scream"

KVRX readies new CD compilation

Fans of 91.7 KVRX's *Cooking By Strobe Light: Local Live Volume 1* needn't wait much longer for a second installment of collected Local Live performances. This month, *Late Last Night As I Lay Screaming: KVRX Local Live Volume 2* will be released. The album features performances from 19 different acts, both local and non-local. Among the artists featured on *Late Last Night As I Lay Screaming* are the Primadonnas, Paul Newman, El Flaco, the Grifters, Meredith Louise Miller, Scud Mountain Boys, Richard Buckner, Kinky Friedman, and many others.

Local Live, which began in October 1995, airs every Sunday night from 10 to 11 p.m., and features live performances from a wide variety of local acts and well as the occasional touring artist. The show is booked, promoted, produced and engineered entirely by KVRX's student staff.

In the summer of 1996, a group of KVRX staff members set to work on putting together a CD compilation of Local Live performances. Those involved worked on various committees which covered all aspects of the project, from selecting music to designing cover artwork. The result of all this hard work was the first Local Live compilation, *Cooking By Strobe Light*, which was released in December 1996. The CD received positive reviews from the local press and even garnered some national attention, as well as airplay on other college stations around the country.

Encouraged by the success of *Cooking By Strobe Light*, KVRX staffers took the knowledge they had gained from that project and began work on *Late Last Night As I Lay Screaming* during this past summer. Once again, the student staff performed all aspects of creating the CD, and those "veterans" of the first project shared their wisdom with staffers who were new to the process.

Working to produce and release a CD is a valuable learning experience that few people get to have; KVRX offers its staff the chance to gain such experience. The artists who contribute benefit as well. *Late Last Night As I Lay Screaming*, like *Cooking by Strobe Light*, will be sent to college radio stations all over the country, thus providing exposure for local acts whose music might not otherwise be widely heard outside of Austin. And the public gets a diverse collection of music and a small taste of what KVRX has to offer. KVRX Station Manager Mike Heidenreich believes that the CD makes a positive statement about the capabilities of the station and its staff.

"It's something that you can give to somebody and say 'this is what the station can do,' and people are impressed by it," he said.

The release of *Late Last Night As I Lay Screaming* will be celebrated with various events during the month of December; watch the local press and listen to 91.7 KVRX for more information.--*Carole Chandler*

UT student group advocates

Animal Liberation Now!

The unofficial Christmas shopping season opens each year immediately after Thanksgiving. The country is awash with the spectacle of enterprise ingenuity. Across the nation, retail shops' windows display the season's "must-haves," including leather shoes and coats, shearing apparel and furs. But animal rights groups across the country hope to discourage shoppers from supporting those industries that "exploit animals for human convenience and greed," according to Jiffy Simons, co-founder of Animal Liberation Now!

ALN is the only animal liberation group at UT-Austin, and they haven't been here for very long—they will celebrate a year of existence next fall. But even in their brief life, the group, co-founded by History senior Simons and Sociology sophomore Sarah Graham, is becoming known for its mission of ending cruelty to animals.

For ALN, its advocacy of ending animal suffering and exploitation by corporate industries such as the veal and dairy industries is based on a logic of respect for other living things. The organization encourages a vegan lifestyle to promote animal liberation of institutions which promote animal cruelty. And even though most people will never be convinced to give up daily staples such as milk and eggs for the sake of animal rights, there are many who will gain consciousness about corporate abuse of animals for consumer materialism. It is these people that groups like ALN focus on.

Graham explains the differences in her style of advocacy and Simons'. "I concentrate on one person at a time, talking one-on-one to answer people's questions about animal cruel-

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Animal Liberation Now!

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ty," she said.

Simons is more outspoken, and it is he one can usually find on the West Mall debating what he calls "the simple logic of respecting other living creatures." Often he debates with other people to advocate his belief— humans' responsibility of ethical consideration and respect for the environment and animals.

Sometimes his outspokenness and bluntness are misinterpreted by people as an "abrasive personality." But in fact, Simons has a surprising modesty and is polite and well-spoken. Always eager to discuss how animal exploitation affects agriculture in Latin America, the economy, and moral principles of all people, Simons backs up his claims with facts from subject areas ranging from religion to history. Yet he admits he is still sensitive to criticism about his personality.

Nevertheless, Simons utilizes his outspoken personality to bring awareness about animal rights to students milling around the West Mall. Those who listen to his message realize that Simons' quest involves a common sense of respect for other creatures, rather than the pointing fingers of blame at people.

At this early stage in the organization's evolution, the focus is on having more activities to promote animal rights activism. Simons and Graham look forward to presenting guest speakers at their meetings, such as Mark Bernstein, a Philosophy professor at UT-San Antonio and a local activist of Action for Animals. ALN has also made arrangements to take a tour of the facilities in the Animal Resource Center to ease their concern that some animals may be subject to unnecessary testing.

Jerry Fineg, Director of the Animal Resource Center, encourages the group to tour the research facilities. Every other month there is an inspection of the protocols for testing methods and the legitimacy of animals in research. Fineg says at least two modifications are made at every meeting in order to not violate the ethical codes of the treatment of animals used.

ALN provides information about vegan support groups and the latest information about People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). Their meetings are held every other Tuesday on the UT campus. While the ideas of Simons and other animal activists are nothing new, the movement is constantly growing and gaining momentum. "I envision animals as our neighbors, who we should share the environment with," he said. "There's enough for everybody."

--Blanca Madriz

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So, just what is this thing KVRX calls

Free Form

We're modest and hate to blow our own horn, but we think that KVRX has the widest variety of music and other programming in all of Austin. Some of our shows are "specialty shows"; that is, they focus on one particular genre. But the majority of shows are "free form," and their goal is to feature a variety of sounds. Our Mission at KVRX is to play music you just won't hear anywhere else—none of the hits, all of the time (catchy, eh? we're seeing it on mugs, raincoats, tee shirts, supermodels' butts...). We maintain a huge "new bin" of the latest music—not just "alternative" rock but world music, hiphop, blues, jazz, folk, country, techno, and metal—from which all deejays have to play five an hour during free form programming. (And some deejays, quite frankly, play more of different musics than "alternative" rock.) As transcendentalist anarcho-romantics, we are loathe to bog our deejays down with rules and regulations, but the Mission of KVRX requires the deejays to play, in addition to the aforementioned new bin tracks, at least two Texas artists (in any genre) and at least five different genres per hour. In addition, under FCC rules, KVRX is allowed to play artistic material that some might find indecent from the hours of 10 p. m. till 6 a. m. Listeners are warned, trust us. *--adapted from the KVRX web page*

. . get to know KVRX . .

KVRX Wins!

At the 1997 National Association of College Broadcasters Conference, held in November in Providence, R.I., KVRX won "Best Community Marketing/ Programming" for the *Cooking By Strobe Light: Local Live Volume 1* CD project. Also, Station Manager Mike Heidenreich and Luke Dangeleisen took third place in "Best Radio Drama" for *Two Texans in a Bar 103 Miles South of Waco*.

KVRX news staffer Adrian Rodriguez received awards for "2nd Best News Reporter" and "2nd Best News Story" from College Media Advisors.

check out KVRX on the web!
http://www.utexas.edu/students/kvrx/

The KVRX Topless 39 is not a playlist; it's a list of New Bin Selections that DJs have played most often.

This list is a summary of the Topless 39s from October 24 to November 14.

1. V/A, *Buena Vista Social Club*
2. Brother Russell, *Melba Comes Alive*
3. Woodie Guthrie, *Muleskinner Blues*
4. Silver Scooter, *The Other Palm Springs*
5. Furry Things, *Come to Daddy*

6/7. (tie) Dr. Zog, *Growing Up Wild in Texas;* Flametrick Subs, *Amaze Your Friends...*

8. Grifters, *Full-Blown Possession*
9. V/A, *15 Blues and Piano Boogie Classics*
10. *Ruben Gonzalez*

11/12. (tie) Wally Gonzalez, *Bury Me at Wal-Mart;* The Sea and Cake, *Two Gentlemen*

13/14. (tie) New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars; *The Big Kibash;* 8 Frozen Modules, *The Confused Designer*

15. Vena Cava, *Melts in Your Hands 7"*

16/17. (tie) Stereolab, *Dots and Loops;* V/A, *Kansas City After Dark*

18/19/20. Big Maceo, *King of the Chicago Blues Piano;* Bright, *The Albatross Guest House;* V/A, *South Texas Polka Party*

21/22/23. (tie) *Portishead;* McBride/Payton/Whitfield, *Fingerprinting;* American Analog Set, *Late One Sunday...*

24. Tomorrowpeople, *Golden Energy*

25/26/27. (tie) Isotope 217, *The Unstable Molecule;* Sprawl, *Speed Gospel from the Space City;* The Promise Ring, *Nothing Feels Good*

28. V/A, *Women of the World: Celtic II*

29/30. (tie) Toru Takemitsu, *The Music Films Of...*; Waco Brothers, *Do You Think About Me?*

31/32. (tie) Wayne Hancock, *That's What Daddy Wants;* Afro-Cuban All-Stars, *A Toda Cuba Le Gusta*

33/34/35. (tie) Doktor Kosmos, *Coctail; Brian Jonestown Massacre;* Windsor for the Derby, *Minnie Gruetzfeldt*

36/37/38. (tie) Chapstick, *El Gato Cumpleanos;* Jacky Terrasson and Cassandra Wilson, *Rendezvous;* Sugar Shack, *Five Weeks Ahead of My Time*

39. Govinda, *O Earthly Gods*

The KVRX Call Letter is published monthly by the staff of KVRX 91.7, the student radio station of the University of Texas at Austin. Views expressed herein are the views of individuals and do not necessarily reflect those of KVRX, Texas Student Publications, or UT-Austin.

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